

SPECIAL JUDICIARY COMMITTEE ROSTER

Full Name	Senate District	Position	Home Address
Curt Thompson	5	Chairman	6320 Glenbrook Dr Tucker, GA 30084
Ronald B. Ramsey, Sr.	43	Vice Chairman	5271 Snapfinger Woods Dr Decatur, GA 30035
Gail Davenport	44	Secretary	Post Office Box 1074 Jonesboro, Georgia 30237
Charlie Bethel	54	Member	1701 Briarcliff Circle Dalton, GA 30720
Jason Carter	42	Member	Post Office Box 573 Decatur, GA 30030
Judson Hill	32	Member	3102 Raines Court Marietta, GA 30062
Donzella James	35	Member	3800 Pittman Road College Park, GA 30349
Emanuel Jones	10	Member	Post Office Box 370244 Decatur, GA 30037
Joshua McKoon	29	Member	Post Office Box 2565 Columbus, GA 31902

Senate Special Judiciary Committee Rules 2011- 2012

Introduction:

Each member of the Committee should be mindful of the Senate Rules especially regarding attendance.

1. A Quorum of the Committee shall be 5 members.
2. The Chairman shall determine which bills and resolutions are to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered.
3. The Chairman shall have the authority to refer bills and resolutions to subcommittees for study. Such subcommittees in turn shall have the authority to make recommendations on such measures to the full Committee at such time as shall be designated by the Chairman.
4. The Committee shall convene, recess, and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman.
5. A bill or resolution will be considered only after presentation by its principal author or other legislator whose name appears first or second on the list of authors or co-sponsors, unless the author or co-sponsor has made other arrangements with the Chairman.
6. No member of the Committee shall be allowed to vote by proxy.
7. Members may not abstain from voting unless the member or any member of the Senator's immediate family has a direct pecuniary interest in the result of such vote which interest is distinct, unique or peculiar to the Senator or the Senator's immediate family.
8. Any member or members of the Committee who disagree with the majority report of the Committee shall be privileged to file a minority report if they so desire.
9. These rules may be amended upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by two-thirds of the members of the Committee.
10. Where these rules are silent on a specific issue, the Rules of the Senate as adopted shall govern.

SENATE SPECIAL JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, January 31, 2012

The Senate Special Judiciary Committee held its first meeting of the 2012 Legislative Session on Tuesday, January 31st in Room 125 of the Capitol. Chairman Curt Thompson called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. Members present at the meeting were as follows:

Senator Curt Thompson, 5th – Chair
Senator Ronald Ramsey, 43rd – Vice Chair
Senator Gail Davenport, 44th – Secretary
Senator Charlie Bethel, 54th
Senator Emanuel Jones, 10th
Senator Donzella James, 35th
Senator Joshua McKoon, 29th

Chairman Thompson, 5th welcomed Senators and began hearings for bills left over from previous sessions and noted that SB 13 and SB 107 passed unanimously last year in the Committee.

SB 13 (Jackson, Lester 2nd) - Make conviction for persons convicted for second time of DUI with child a felony

Senator Lester Jackson, 2nd presented **SB 13** to the committee.

Discussion: There was no discussion and Senator Jones 10th motioned do pass and Senator James seconded. The bill passed unanimously. Legislative Counsel informed members that this was the original version and not the bill as passed out of committee last year. Chairman Thompson suggested that we reconsider the bill and introduce a substitute at the next meeting to amend the bill to put it in its form as passed last year. Sen Bethel 54th motioned to reconsider and Sen. James 35th seconded. The motion passed unanimously

SB 13 Tabled

The committee then discussed SB 107 (Stone 23rd) and SB 41 (James 35th) and decided that these bills would need amendments to place in previous form as well.

SB 41 (James, 35th) Traffic Offenses; person convicted of endangering a child by driving under the influence; ignition interlock device

Sen. James 35th presented SB 41. Sen. James said that she has worked with Sen. Bethel, the Governor's office, and the Lt. Governor's office on amendments to the bill. Barry Martin from Mothers against Drunk Driving urged passage of the bill.

Chairman Thompson held the bill without a motion until final language could be worked out between Sen. Bethel, Sen. James and the Governor's office.

SB 41 Held in Committee

SB 348 (Jones 10th) Civil Practice; personal service of a summons on a corporation; provisions

Senator Jones provided testimony for SB 348. Senator Bethel acknowledged he had discussed the bill with Senator Jones and offered a friendly amendment.

David Raynor from the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and Jason Rooks of the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association both spoke in favor of the bill.

Sen. James 35th motioned do pass by substitute and Sen. Bethel 54th seconded.

SB 348 passed 5-1 with Sen. Mckoon 29th voting against.

SB 348 Do pass by substitute

With no further business, Chairman Thompson, 5th, adjourned the meeting at 3:54 p.m.

/s/ Senator Gail Davenport, 44th, Secretary

Respectfully submitted by: /s/ Javier A. Brown, Recording Secretary

SENATE SPECIAL JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

The Senate Special Judiciary Committee held its second meeting of the 2012 Legislative Session on Tuesday, February 7th in Room 125 of the Capitol. Chairman Curt Thompson called the meeting to order at 1:13 p.m. Members present at the meeting were as follows:

Senator Curt Thompson, 5th – Chair

Senator Gail Davenport, 44th – Secretary

Senator Charlie Bethel, 54th

Senator Emanuel Jones, 10th

Senator Donzella James, 35th

SB 107 (Stone, Jesse 23rd) – Superior Courts; increase penalties that can be imposed for contempt of court

Senator Stone (23rd) presented a substitute to **SB 107** to the committee.

Discussion: There was no discussion. Senator Jones 10th motioned do pass and Senator Bethel seconded. SB 107 passed unanimously by committee sub.

SB 107 do pass by substitute

With no further business, Chairman Thompson, 5th, adjourned the meeting at 1:27 P.M.

/s/ Senator Gail Davenport, 44th, Secretary

Respectfully submitted by: /s/ Javier A. Brown, Recording Secretary

SENATE SPECIAL JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

The Senate Special Judiciary Committee held its third meeting of the 2012 Legislative Session on Wednesday, February 15th in Room 125 of the Capitol. Chairman Curt Thompson called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. Members present at the meeting were as follows:

Senator Curt Thompson, 5th – Chair
Senator Gail Davenport, 44th – Secretary
Senator Charlie Bethel, 54th
Senator Jason Carter, 42nd
Senator Donzella James, 35th
Senator Joshua McKoon, 29th
Senator Emanuel Jones 10th

Chairman Thompson, 5th welcomed Senators and explained that Senator Ramsey was away on business outside of the Capitol.

SB 13 (Jackson, Lester 2nd) – Make conviction for persons convicted for second time of DUI with child a felony

Senator Lester Jackson 2nd presented a substitute to **SB 13** to the committee.

Discussion: Mr. Bob Bray of the Council of State Court Judges and Judge Larry Mims of Tift County spoke about concerns about possibly weakening laws because of a provision in the bill where the mandatory sentence is not as strong as current sentencing. Legislative Counsel discussed language and everyone agreed that Judges will have discretion in sentencing. Cynthia Hagin from Mothers against Drunk Driving and Xavier Cunningham for Senator Ramsey's office spoke in favor of the bill

Sen. McKoon motioned do pass with Sen. James seconding. The committee substitute to SB 13 passed unanimously

SB 13 do pass by substitute

With no further business, Chairman Thompson, 5th, adjourned the meeting at 3:46 p.m.

/s/ Senator Gail Davenport, 44th, Secretary

Respectfully submitted by: /s/ Javier A. Brown, Recording Secretary

SENATE SPECIAL JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday, February 23, 2012

The Senate Special Judiciary Committee held its fourth meeting of the 2012 Legislative Session on Thursday, February 23rd in Room 125 of the Capitol. Chairman Curt Thompson called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m. Members present at the meeting were as follows: Senator Curt Thompson, 5th – Chair
Senator Ronald Ramsey, 43rd – Vice Chair
Senator Gail Davenport, 44th – Secretary
Senator Jason Carter, 42nd
Senator Joshua McKoon, 29th

SB 290 (Ramsey, Ronald 43rd) – Georgia Innocence Inquiry Commission; create; provide a purpose; define certain terms; membership and appointment

Senator Lester Jackson 2nd presented **SB 290** to the committee.

Discussion: With no discussion, Senator Carter motioned that the bill do pass and was seconded by Senator Davenport. The bill passed unanimously.

SB 290 do pass

With no further business, Chairman Thompson, 5th, adjourned the meeting at 2:26 p.m.

/s/ Senator Gail Davenport, 44th, Secretary

Respectfully submitted by: /s/ Javier A. Brown, Recording Secretary

SENATE SPECIAL JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, February 29, 2012

The Senate Special Judiciary Committee held its fifth meeting of the 2012 Legislative Session on Wednesday, February 29th in Room 125 of the Capitol. Senator Joshua Mckoon (29th) served as chair and called the meeting to order at 11:39 a.m. Members present at the meeting were as follows:

Senator Josh Mckoon, 29th – Chair
Senator Gail Davenport, 44th – Secretary
Senator Emmanuel Jones, 10th
Senator Charles Bethel, 54th
Senator Curt Thompson, 5th

SB 479 (Thompson, Curt 5th) – Requires the purchaser of a condominium development or other property development at a foreclosure to take title subject to a lien in favor of the condominium or property owners' association

Senator Curt Thompson presented **SB 479** to the committee.

Discussion: Elizabeth Chandler of the Georgia Bond Association spoke against the bill. Keith Hatcher of the Georgia Realtors Association spoke against the bill.

SB 479 no vote hearing only

SB 465 (Thompson, Curt 5th) – Crimes and offenses; increase the punishment for aggravated assault upon a nurse while engaged in his or her official duties

Senator Curt Thompson presented **SB 465** to the committee.

Discussion: There was no discussion on the bill.

Sen. Bethel motioned do pass with Sen Jones seconding. SB 465 passed unanimously.

SB 465 do pass

With no further business, Chairman McKoon, 29th, adjourned the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

/s/ Senator Gail Davenport, 44th, Secretary

Respectfully submitted by: /s/ Javier A. Brown, Recording Secretary

SENATE SPECIAL JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

The Senate Special Judiciary Committee held its sixth meeting of the 2012 Legislative Session on Tuesday, March 20th in Room 125 of the Capitol. A Quorum was reached and Chairman Curt Thompson called the meeting to order at 2:28 p.m. Members present at the meeting were as follows: Senator Curt Thompson, 5th – Chair
Senator Gail Davenport, 44th – Secretary
Senator Tommie Williams, 19th Ex-Officio
Senator Charles Bethel, 54th
Senator Jason Carter, 42nd

HB 733 (Hightower, Dustin 68th) – To add holdover provisions for appointees of the Georgia Commission on Family Violence

Rep Hightower presented **HB 733** to the committee.

Discussion: There was no discussion on the bill.

Sen Bethel motioned that the bill do pass and Sen Carter seconded. The bill passed unanimously.

HB 733 do pass

Chairman Thompson asked Senator McKoon to Chair the meeting from this point forward.

SB 465 (Thompson, Curt 5th) - Crimes and offenses; increase the punishment for aggravated assault upon a nurse while engaged in his or her official duties

Senator Curt Thompson presented **SB 465** to the committee.

Discussion: There was no discussion on the bill.

Sen. Bethel motioned do pass with Sen Jones seconding. SB 465 passed unanimously.

SB 465 do pass

With no further business, Chairman McKoon, 29th, adjourned the meeting at 2:39 p.m.

/s/ Senator Gail Davenport, 44th, Secretary

Respectfully submitted by: /s/ Javier A. Brown, Recording Secretary

Senator Tommie Williams
District 19
321 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Committees:
Appropriations
Education and Youth
Health and Human Services
Reapportionment and Redistricting
Rules

The State Senate
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

March 20, 2012

Bob Ewing
Secretary of the Senate
353 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Bob:

In accordance with Senate Rules, the Committee on Assignments has appointed Senator Tommie Williams to serve as an Ex-Officio Member for the Senate Special Judiciary Committee. This appointment shall expire upon the adjournment of the committee meeting. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns on this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Tommie Williams
Senate President Pro Tempore

September 7, 2012

Mr. Bob Ewing
Secretary of the Senate
Georgia General Assembly
353 State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Mr. Ewing,

Please find herein a listing of the legislation left in the Senate Special Judiciary Committee in 2012:

[SB 41](#)
[SB 44](#)
[SB 118](#)
[SB 144](#)
[SB 247](#)
[SB 387](#)
[SB 479](#)

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Javier Brown
Recording Secretary
Senate Special Judiciary Committee